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Summary report on the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum for in-depth discussion on capacity-building was held during the fortieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on 12 and 13 June 2014. The meeting was attended by representatives of Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and academia. They shared information and experiences relating to the enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment and on the assessment of options for and implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures. The Chairs, Co-Chairs and members of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol provided an overview of the capacity-building elements included in the workplans of these bodies and engaged in a question and answer session with the meeting participants.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by decision 2/CP.17, requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to further enhance the monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building by organizing an annual in-session Durban Forum for in-depth discussion on capacity-building.[1]

2. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), by decision 10/CMP.8, decided that the Durban Forum is an appropriate arrangement for sharing experiences and exchanging ideas, best practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of capacity-building activities related to the Kyoto Protocol with the participation of Parties, representatives of the relevant bodies established under the Convention and relevant experts and practitioners.[2]

3. The SBI, at its thirty-ninth session, invited Parties to submit to the secretariat their views on specific thematic issues relating to capacity-building in developing countries under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.[3]

4. The COP, by decision 2/CP.17, requested the secretariat to prepare a summary report on the Durban Forum for consideration by the SBI.[4]

B. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

5. The SBI may wish to consider the information contained in this report with a view to identifying appropriate actions arising from it.

II. Preparatory work

6. In accordance with the relevant provisions contained in decisions 2/CP.17, 1/CP.18 and 10/CMP.8, the secretariat prepared and made available the following documents to facilitate discussions at the meeting:

(a) A synthesis report on the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries;[5]

(b) An addendum to that synthesis report, containing a compilation of capacity-building activities undertaken by United Nations organizations and other institutions;[6]

(c) A synthesis report on capacity-building work undertaken by bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol;[7]

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[1] Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 144.
[2] Decision 10/CMP.8, paragraph 1.
[3] FCCC/SBI/2013/20, paragraphs 143 and 147.
[4] Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 147.
[5] FCCC/SBI/2014/2.
[6] FCCC/SBI/2014/2/Add.1.
[7] FCCC/SBI/2014/7.

(d) A compilation of the views submitted by Parties on specific issues to be considered at the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum as well as information on activities undertaken to implement the framework for capacity-building in developing countries.[5]

7. On the basis of the specific issues for consideration identified by Parties in their submissions, and taking into account the relevant provisions contained in decisions 2/CP.17 and 10/CMP.8 referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above, a provisional agenda for the meeting was developed, the final version of which is contained in the annex.

III. Proceedings

8. The 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum took place on 12 and 13 June 2014 during SBI 40. Mr. Amena Yauvoli, Chair of the SBI, chaired the meeting. Ms. Angela Kallhauge (Sweden) and Mr. Ian Fry (Tuvalu) supported him as co-facilitators.

9. The meeting was attended by about 240 participants. Representatives of Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector and academia, and Chairs, Co-Chairs and members of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol shared their experiences and identified needs for, and gaps in, the delivery of capacity-building for adaptation to, and mitigation of, climate change. The meeting comprised three sessions. Session 1, co-facilitated by Mr. Fry, focused on topics related to the enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment. Session 2, co-facilitated by Ms. Kallhauge, comprised presentations and discussions on the assessment of options for and implementation of mitigation measures. Session 3, co-facilitated by Mr. Fry, addressed the topic of the assessment of options for and implementation of adaptation measures. Presentations delivered in each session were followed by an interactive dialogue with and among the Durban Forum participants.

10. The webcast of the meeting as well as the presentations and statements made are available on the UNFCCC website.[6]

1. Welcoming remarks

11. The meeting was opened by Mr. Yauvoli, who shared his experience of facing the everyday challenges of climate change as an inhabitant of a small island developing State and his views of the pivotal role of capacity-building at the national level to enable the engagement of, and the dialogue among, all stakeholders to address such challenges.

12. Ms. Christiana Figueres, UNFCCC Executive Secretary, affirmed that, within the climate change process, the bottom line of capacity-building is to democratize participation at two levels: among countries, in that it enables all Parties to participate in a fair way; and within each country. Capacity-building is an iterative process, as time is needed to incorporate new concepts, and different stakeholders are engaged at different points in time. Tools and knowledge to address climate change issues have to be spread among those who need them. Ms. Figueres concluded her welcoming remarks by inviting the participants of the Durban Forum to be agents of democratization among countries and within each country.

13. Mr. Fry presented a special guest, Ms. Koko Warner, who spoke both in her capacity as Lead Author of the contribution of Working Group II to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) and in her capacity as a researcher on issues related to environmental migration, social vulnerability and adaptation. Ms. Warner presented a synthesis of the results contained in chapter 20 of the AR5, showing the crucial

[5] FCCC/SBI/2014/MISC.2 and Add.1 and 2.

[6] <http://unfccc.int/8121.php>.

role played by capacity-building to enhance climate-resilient pathways to sustainable development. According to the AR5, climate change poses a moderate threat to current sustainable development and a severe threat to future sustainable development. Ms. Warner presented a graph illustrating the world as it is today, and how the world may evolve according to the pathways chosen by negotiators and policymakers, including in the context of the 2015 agreement. Countries may decide to go towards either high or low resilience. High-resilience, low-risk pathways mean opting for the implementation of effective risk management and the integration of adaptation and mitigation responses which, in some cases, generate or introduce co-benefits including improved livelihoods, social and economic well-being, and responsible environmental management. Ms. Warner concluded her presentation by highlighting the need: to build capacity to generate a higher level of social awareness of climate change and its impacts; to promote a social dialogue enabling informed decisions and to endorse both institutional change and systemic innovation; and to create a leadership for sustainability ready to respond to complex challenges and make decisions in uncertain circumstances.

2. Session 1: enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment

14. The first session, devoted to the enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment, was opened by Mr. Kunihiko Shimada, Vice-Chair of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC). After a brief introduction of the mandates and functions of the TEC, Mr. Shimada presented details of actions undertaken by this body to create and enhance enabling environments for the development and transfer of climate technologies. He provided an overview of activities carried out in 2012 and 2013, which included two thematic dialogues on enabling environments and barriers and related key messages for consideration by Parties at COP 18 and 19; a thematic dialogue on research, development and demonstration of technologies and related key messages at COP 18 and 19; and the establishment of a TEC task force focusing on issues related to the enabling of environments and the removal of barriers. In the key messages to the COP several issues were identified, including: enhancing the capacity of developing countries to assess technology needs, considering in an integrated manner activities related to the technology cycle, policy, regulatory frameworks and financing; strengthening national systems of innovation and multi-stakeholder engagement at the regional and national levels; and achieving more clarity in the area of intellectual property rights regarding the development and transfer of climate technologies. The TEC workplan for 2014–2015 includes further work on enabling environments and capacity-building, including on national systems of innovation and technology for adaptation. Mr. Shimada concluded his presentation by inviting the participants to visit the UNFCCC technology information clearing house TT:CLEAR[10] to learn more about the work undertaken by the TEC.

15. Mr. Fred Machulu Onduri, Chair of the Advisory Board of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), informed the Durban Forum of the operations of and the progress made by the CTCN in providing its services to developing countries. Responding to requests for technical assistance from developing countries is at the core of the work of the CTCN. As at June 2014, eight official requests for technical assistance had been submitted to the CTCN by six countries. The CTCN has supported developing countries in enhancing their understanding of the eligibility criteria for preparing requests for technical assistance from the CTCN, such as the national priorities emerging from technology needs assessments. A series of regional workshops for CTCN national designated entities has been organized with a focus on CTCN functions and services, the roles of national designated entities at the national level and the identification of their priority needs to effectively play their roles. The CTCN has also produced a manual for national designated

[10] <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/pages/home.html>.

entities with information on the request process and CTCN services. Furthermore, the CTCN has developed specific criteria and operational guidelines for institutions specializing in adaptation and mitigation technologies that wish to join the Climate Technology Network. Mr. Onduri concluded his presentation with an appeal to developing countries to apply to become part of the Network in order to reach a balance between the representation of developed and developing countries, and between mitigation and adaptation focuses.

16. Ms. Hilary Hove, member of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), focused her presentation on the technical assistance provided by the CGE to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in the preparation processes for national communications and biennial update reports (BURs), including on issues relating to the establishment and maintenance of sustainable national institutional arrangements required for the effective preparation of these reports. Ms. Hove informed the Durban Forum of the most recent training materials developed by the CGE, which include updated materials on: greenhouse gas inventories; vulnerability and adaptation assessments; and mitigation assessments for the preparation of national communications, as well as supplementary materials on the preparation of BURs. Ms. Hove also highlighted the involvement of the CGE, as mandated by COP 19, in the preparation of training materials for the team of technical experts to conduct the technical analyses under the international consultation and analysis process. With the assistance of the secretariat, the CGE will develop and organize a training programme for the nominated technical experts. Ms. Hove concluded her presentation by announcing that a first round of training for nominated experts who are eligible to join the team of technical experts has been planned to take place after COP 20.

17. Mr. Rawleston Moore, a representative of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) secretariat, provided examples of projects where the GEF has enhanced the capacity of countries to develop innovative and/or programmatic approaches to address adaptation and mitigation actions. These examples showed a range of implementation strategies aiming at scaling up local and national institutional capacities. One of the cases presented was of a solar thermal power project implemented in Egypt to increase the capacity to develop large-scale innovative renewable energy projects and develop a renewable energy supply with private investments. The project resulted in the demonstration of the viability of hybrid solar thermal power generation in Egypt and enabled the country to position itself internationally as a source of expertise on solar thermal power. Mr. Moore concluded his presentation by informing the Durban Forum of the support for capacity-building in the sixth replenishment of the GEF. In 2013, the GEF provided USD 286 million for investments in the priority areas listed in the framework for capacity-building in developing countries.[11] As regards this replenishment, the GEF will continue to support capacity-building through its Trust Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund. The enhancement of institutional capacity will be one of the key elements of the sixth replenishment. Through the GEF cross-cutting capacity development strategy, the replenishment will address capacity needs across multiple GEF focal areas, and will catalyse synergies among different sectors and between the Rio Conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements.

18. Ms. Christine Grüning, a representative of the Frankfurt School – UNEP Collaborating Centre for Climate and Sustainable Energy Finance, presented three projects aimed at improving the environmental, financial and social sustainability of microfinance institutions through climate finance. The projects benefited from the collaboration between the public and private sectors, and between research and development policies. These projects were successful thanks to the capacity built among microfinance institutions and

[11] Decision 2/CP.7, annex.

farmers. As well as being helped to understand the risks linked to climate change, microfinance institutions were helped to recognize the business opportunities generated by providing small loans that are specifically aimed at enabling people to cope with climate change impacts. Farmers were helped to understand how best they can deal with the negative impacts of climate change and how to apply for small loans to put in place locally feasible and alternative solutions. The first case presented was an income diversification project implemented in Nepal, where village communities were experiencing loss of harvest and dropping yields. With a small investment for the equipment to produce essential oils, they could increase their income by using resistant plants which could be employed in the production of essential oils. The additional income derived from selling the oils would enable farmers to pay for or secure the loans. Another project, implemented in Ethiopia, contributed to generating higher incomes by investing in solar thermal water pumps which ensured direct water access and allowed for growing alternative crops.

19. Ms. Grüning's presentation concluded the list of presentations for this session, opening the Durban Forum for questions and answers and a lively debate among all participants. One of the main topics discussed related to mainstreaming gender considerations into the formulation and implementation of capacity-building activities. The representative of the GEF secretariat confirmed that gender is a focus of all GEF projects, and informed the Durban Forum that an additional gender plan with new indicators for gender will be soon be developed. A representative of Uganda added that the African Union agreed to include gender perspectives in all established activities and programmes with a view to women making up at least 30 per cent of the people participating in such activities and programmes.

20. A representative of Belgium noted the efforts of the CGE in supporting developing countries in the preparation of BURs, and added that support is still needed for the preparation of national communications. The member of the CGE confirmed that the CGE is now considering the two reporting products jointly, and lessons learned from the national communications process will be used to help to develop the capacity to prepare BURs.

21. The debate also focused on the sensitization of legislators on climate change. The representative of the GEF secretariat mentioned that, as GEF projects are country-driven, the inclusion of specific components such as sensitization needs to be requested by the country. However, he is aware of many GEF projects reaching out to high-level government officials and legislators to sensitize them on climate change. On this topic, a representative of South Africa mentioned the GLOBE Climate Legislation Initiative launched in 2013, aiming at supporting legislators from developed and developing countries to advance climate change legislation between now and 2015, and the Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa, which is working in partnership with parliaments of African countries.

22. Two topics, capacity-building replication and scaling up, and climate change mainstreaming into national development planning, further enlivened the debate. Mr. Fry highlighted the necessity to transfer lessons learned from capacity-building activities to other communities and to find ways to retain the capacity beyond the time frame of one-off projects – a concern shared by a representative of Japan. The issues of mainstreaming and project replication or scaling up were also raised by a representative of Belgium, who mentioned as examples some GEF small grants projects that developed into medium- and full-sized projects. The representative of the GEF secretariat commented that replication and scaling up, mainly in terms of knowledge transfer to other communities, is increasingly becoming common practice within the GEF. He also considered that integrating and embedding capacity-building in a project facilitates the retention of the capacity more than does implementing capacity-building as an isolated activity. He added that projects need to be complemented with ad hoc components to enable the mainstreaming of climate-resilient

development into government processes and to foster change at the institutional level. The representative of the Frankfurt School – UNEP Collaborating Centre mentioned that, according to her experience, knowledge is best transferred through simple explanations adapted to the work and that financial benefits for the local communities are crucial for the projects to be successful.

23. On the same topic, a representative of Climate Action Network International (CAN International) noted that cooperation is embedded in capacity-building and a mechanism is needed to coordinate an 'upstream' direction of capacity-building in order to improve results. Representatives of Rwanda and Uganda shared with the Durban Forum their experiences of how capacity-building was enhanced and scaled up in their respective countries. In Rwanda, instead of organizing early warning systems training for two experts abroad, it was decided to bring the trainers to the country and enlarge the pool of trainees, who, at a later stage, became trainers themselves. This resulted in a permanent national expert team, reducing the need to recruit external consultants. In Uganda, the national adaptation programme of action (NAPA) process has been instrumental in building national capacity and awareness of climate change across sectors and among high-level government officials. The debate concluded with a message launched by a representative of Finland, who invited representatives of bodies constituted under the Convention to include in their work programmes plans to enhance the hands-on training and collaboration with peer institutions.

3. Session 2: assessment of options and implementation of mitigation measures

24. Mr. Pat Finnegan of CAN International opened session 2 with a presentation of CAN International's perspectives on capacity as the front end of the mitigation pipeline. Mr. Finnegan pointed out that capacity is needed in order to undertake actions leading to results. He noted that there is a link between capacity-building, cooperation/coordination and effectiveness, and what is missing in the UNFCCC process is a shared objective based on cooperation and coordination of efforts which could lead to results by means of cost-effectiveness. Such coordinated and cooperative capacity enhancement is urgently required by the vast majority of developing countries, which still need to build institutional capacity to design, develop and implement mitigation and adaptation strategies and to enable technical tasks and assessments as per the latest requirements under the Convention. Mr. Finnegan concluded that as many of these challenges are pressing, cooperation and coordination are the instruments which can support developing countries to meet the objectives of low-carbon sustainable development.

25. Ms. Elizabeth Press of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) presented the efforts made by IRENA to support countries in moving towards the increased use of renewable energy. Ms. Press described three projects in three different geographical areas to show the diversified approach taken by IRENA. The first project, implemented in West Africa, was focused on supporting policy and regulatory frameworks. Its objective was to promote a sustainable solar photovoltaics market among entrepreneurs, banks and incubation centres. The second project was about the certification of technicians in small island developing States in the Pacific, where the capacity of the qualified local technical force was built to scale up interest in introducing solar photovoltaics as a regional standard. The third project was focused on geothermal energy development in the Andean countries. To facilitate knowledge transfer on this issue, IRENA organized technical training sessions provided by a pool of experts from countries with experience in geothermal technology. Ms. Press concluded her presentation by sharing lessons learned from these projects, including the importance of the active coordination of all stakeholders involved to ensure that capacity-building efforts are effective and to identify the 'right' stakeholders/institutions to be trained.

26. Mr. Brian Mantlana (South Africa) and Mr. Sebastian Wienges (Germany) presented the International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV. Launched by Germany, the Republic of Korea and South Africa at the Petersberg Climate Dialogue in 2010, the Partnership facilitates the exchange of experiences relating to mitigation and measurement, reporting and verification between climate negotiators, policymakers and practitioners from more than 50 developing and developed countries with a view to sharing knowledge, building trust and informing climate change negotiations. The partnership conducts meetings and networking at every negotiating session; facilitates the analysis of inventories to quantify the different impacts of mitigation actions; and supports knowledge management and capacity-building activities, including the organization of summer schools, technical workshops and peer exchanges across regions.

27. Ms. Alina Averchenkova of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment delivered a presentation on behalf of the Low Emission Capacity-Building Programme of the United Nations Development Programme[12] demonstrating results from a study on the mobilization of private-sector engagement in low-emission development strategies and nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs). Ms. Averchenkova described the evaluations that private-sector practitioners make before they decide to make low-carbon investments with regard to matters such as the overall financial, regulatory and political issues in the target country or the lack of experience with new and unproven technologies. She also highlighted that the challenges faced by the public sector when considering engaging the private sector include the profit-driven nature of the private sector entering into conflict with the social and environmental objectives of low-emission development strategies and NAMAs, or big gaps in private-sector skills and capacities. The recognition of the importance of private-sector engagement is confirmed by the fact that many countries include it in capacity-building programmes on the design of NAMAs. Ms. Averchenkova concluded by drawing attention to the need to organize training for government officials working on low-emission development strategies and NAMAs to enable them to identify suitable private-sector actors, approach them using appropriate language and present materials in a way that raises their interest.

28. Mr. Hugh Sealy, Chair of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM), presented the efforts of the Executive Board to promote CDM capacity-building in a time of carbon market crisis. Mr. Sealy started by informing the Durban Forum that CMP 9 confirmed that Parties continue to support the CDM and encourage the Executive Board and the secretariat to enhance capacity-building initiatives. The objective of these initiatives is to strengthen the skills and capacity of designated national authorities (DNAs) and local stakeholders through regional training, forums and workshops on specific topics such as standardized baselines, programmes of activities, sustainable development co-benefits and other CDM requirements. CMP 9 welcomed the progress made by regional collaboration centres in providing on-site technical support to project developers and DNAs in developing countries underrepresented in the CDM. Other forms of capacity-building activities supported by the Executive Board include the creation of CDM and DNA help desks and the preparation of manuals, guidance notes and online courses. Mr. Sealy concluded his presentation by inviting the Durban Forum to think about the CDM as a machine powered by technical experts, operational entities and private organizations assisted by support structures and working on the basis of hundreds of approved methodologies. This machine is now able to measure, report and verify any results-based climate finance flow and can assist countries accordingly.

[12] <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/environmentandenergy/focus_areas/climate_strategies/undp_projects_thatcontributetogreenlecrds/national_sub-nationalstrategies/low_emission_capacitybuildingprogramme.html>

29. Ms. Miriam Hinostroza of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Risoe Centre presented the challenges faced by the Nairobi Framework Partnership[13] and solutions proposed for assisting developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, to improve their level of participation in the CDM and to promote the enhancement of regional distribution of CDM project activities. The implementation strategy of the UNEP Risoe Centre is to transfer knowledge and experience of the CDM to selected target groups of local CDM practitioners and stakeholders, including policymakers, ministries, DNAs and local financial and banking sector experts. UNEP has established a CDM support programme (Capacity Development for the CDM)[14] with the objective of increasing the access of medium-sized and small developing countries to the carbon markets. In this context, institutional and individual capacity has been built at various levels, including with knowledge management products promoting the CDM. To conclude, Ms. Hinostroza showed a graph demonstrating the increase of CDM projects hosted in African countries and in the least developed countries (LDCs) after the establishment of the Nairobi Framework.

30. Mr. Federico Grullón, Co-Chair of the Designated National Authorities Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean, presented the experience of the Dominican Republic as a recipient of the support provided by the CDM regional collaboration centre located in St. George's, Grenada. The collaboration with the centre has contributed greatly to enhancing the Dominican Republic's capacity to develop CDM projects. Examples of support received include: validation of the analysis of methodological aspects of the emission factor for the electricity sector; review and validation of the data and the calculation tools used; evaluation of information sources used; assistance in conducting a technical workshop on the CDM and emission factors with the participation of all stakeholders concerned; support for the development of a definition of a standardized baseline for the power sector; the establishment of a quality control/quality assurance system for the baseline and monitoring plan; and the validation of the use of the computational tools provided by the CDM Executive Board. Support was also received for a technical workshop on the CDM standardized baselines approach in the electricity sector. Next on the agenda is support to an off-grid emission factor calculation.

31. Session 2 continued with a question and answer period and an open debate among panellists and the audience. A representative of Rwanda asked about the risk of double counting of emissions avoided when CDM projects are transformed into NAMAs, and which type of support is going to be provided to DNAs in addressing this concern. A representative of Austria asked whether new CDM projects are still expected during this period of lack of demand, or whether there will be spillover into other areas of the Convention such as NAMAs. The Chair of the CDM Executive Board explained the affinity between a CDM project activity and a NAMA. It is possible, for example, to have accredited NAMAs, get financial support upfront and credits at the back end. Double counting can be avoided by choosing the appropriate methodology. Regional collaboration centres will help to provide information and support on these issues. The Chair of the CDM Executive Board took the opportunity to dissipate concerns about the value of certified emission reductions, since the value rests on the type of project itself. On a question raised by a representative of Japan about the feedback from participants of workshops organized by the CDM Executive Board, the Chair confirmed that workshops are welcomed and will continue, but nothing compares with the success achieved by the regional collaboration centres in raising interest in the CDM in only eleven months after these centres became operational in the field. A representative of Finland asked panellists if project developers at the country level have the capacity to create attractive bankable projects, or whether these

[13] <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.
[14] <http://cd4cdm.org/>.

projects are designed by a small group of consultants. The representative of IRENA stated that, on the basis of feedback received from the private sector and multilateral agencies, IRENA is developing a project navigator, which is a tool to help to understand how to develop a bankable project. The Chair of the CDM Executive Board shared his experience of the difficulty of developing proposals for bankable projects in the Caribbean. There are increasing expectations for financial support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) under its readiness programme to create the capacity to develop proposals, especially in very small countries. A representative of Zambia underlined the importance of a mentoring approach to build the capacity of local people and the need for embedding capacity-building mechanisms within institutions to sustain the capacity in the long term. The representative of the UNEP Risoe Centre expressed the opinion that developing countries lack capacity not only in terms of knowledge and skills of national project developers, but also in terms of capital markets and investors ready to take risks in certain activities. She added that capacity has to be built not only in the private sector in terms of financial perspectives, but also within the industry sector. The representative of the Grantham Research Institute confirmed that capacity-building for the private sector is essential because, unlike what was happening in the CDM, the private sector perceives NAMAs to be governmental initiatives and is not yet aware of the role that it can play in this context. The capacity built with regard to the CDM can be used to support a shift to other areas of investment. According to her experience of dialogue with the private sector, the alignment of investment programmes with development policy plans is considered to be a policy security/policy stability indicator.

4. Session 3: assessment of options and implementation of adaptation measures

32. Mr. Batu Uprety, Chair of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), informed the Durban Forum of present and future training approaches of the LEG to build individual and institutional capacities in LDCs. The LEG conducted several regional training workshops to enhance and build the capacity of the LDCs to address adaptation through NAPAs, the work programme for LDCs and the national adaptation plan (NAP) process. These workshops were supported by a set of training materials, covering NAPA implementation and key aspects of the NAP process. The LEG tailored each of the regional training workshops to regional needs, experiences, best practices and lessons learned. Each of the workshops provided a platform for enabling face-to-face learning and exchange of experiences, best practices and lessons learned in addressing medium- and long-term adaptation. As regards future training activities, further modalities have been considered, including training of trainers, e-learning materials for self-paced training, enhanced collaboration with relevant organizations and support programmes and online collaboration tools through NAP Central, a web-based repository and hub for NAP-related information. In addition to the workshops, the LEG organized two NAP Expo events[15] in support of the NAP process in LDCs. Mr. Uprety concluded his presentation by giving details of a publication in two volumes on best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in LDCs.

33. Mr. Faustin Munyazikwiye (Rwanda) delivered a presentation on capacity-building for green growth and climate resilience in his country. After the description of the adverse impacts of climate change on Rwanda and of the country's major milestones on climate change development policy and planning, Mr. Munyazikwiye provided an overview of challenges encountered along the path to resilience and the solutions adopted. The problems of the limited number of national experts on climate change issues and the lack of adequate data for weather prediction were solved by training a cross-sectoral team of national experts and installing 22 automatic weather stations to enhance the early warning system. The

[15] <http://unfccc.int/8425>.

insufficient ownership shown in some sectors was solved by: mainstreaming climate change into national planning and appointing facilitators within ministries and at the district levels; and the establishment of a climate change unit within the Ministry of Environment and green economy national committees to increase internal coordination and cooperation. The limited financial capacity was dealt with by creating a national green fund with a window for resilience and capacity development. A solution to the limited awareness of climate change was the organization of public awareness-raising programmes on the radio and television and training of target groups such as youth, women and the private sector.

34. Ms. Sumaya Zakieldeen, a member of the Adaptation Committee, delivered a presentation on technical support and guidance provided by the Adaptation Committee to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation. Ms. Zakieldeen reported on the results of mapping United Nations agencies and regional institutions supporting adaptation in developing countries, based on submissions sent to the Committee. At its 5th meeting (March 2014), the Adaptation Committee established an ad hoc group on technical support, with the task of proposing modalities for providing support on adaptation to Parties. The group is currently in the process of performing an analysis of support provided, as well as identifying existing gaps, needs and opportunities for strengthening support. On the basis of the analysis, the ad hoc group is going to provide recommendations to the Adaptation Committee. Some of the findings emerging from the mapping exercise highlight that 87 per cent of the organizations mapped promote capacity-building for adaptation at the individual and/or the institutional level and 42 per cent of them mentioned awareness of gender sensitivity. The Adaptation Committee further established a task force to consider issues related to the NAP process. The task force is collaborating with other bodies established under the Convention such as the LEG, the TEC, the GCF Board and the Standing Committee on Finance. Future activities of the Adaptation Committee include the organization of two workshops in 2015, on means of implementation for adaptation action and on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification.

35. Ms. Siane Abdul Baki (Liberia) presented the experience of her country, as an LDC, in integrating gender considerations into climate change adaptation strategies. The Gender and Climate Change Strategy of Liberia has been developed with the support of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the Global Gender and Climate Alliance, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Ministry of Gender and Development. The objective of the strategy is to mainstream gender equality into Liberia's climate change policies and programmes and to provide equal opportunities to both men and women to implement and benefit from mitigation and adaptation initiatives. The strategy, drafted through a participatory approach involving policymakers and stakeholder consultations and peer reviews, is based on the analysis of the current national priorities concerning climate change as set out by the Liberian Government. The strategy is extended to the following sectors: agriculture and food security; coastal areas; forestry and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; health, water and sanitation; and energy. Specific sector-related activities have been developed and are being implemented. Gender focal points have been appointed. Training on climate change issues was conducted at the grassroots level as well as for senior government officials. Some examples include: training of women farmers to create awareness/share climate change and adaptation information with other women; a training of trainers programme to enable the organization of subsequent knowledge/information-sharing workshops on climate change and adaptation in agriculture; groups of women selected to collect rainfall data in their respective towns; and four female head officers of the Ministry of Agriculture trained to conduct climate change vulnerability and risk assessments in the agriculture sector with the support of the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy in Africa at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

36. After the first round of presentations, some clarifying questions were asked from the floor. Many of them were posed to the representative of Liberia and were centred on the political support received to approve the gender strategy and appoint gender focal points, on the challenges encountered at the local level and on the establishment of gender focal points and the type of training they received. The representative of Liberia explained that political support was secured thanks to the involvement and lobbying of ministries, and the engagement of the senate and the lower house in incorporating gender issues into all agendas. One of the first challenges encountered at the local level was the resistance to change, which was overcome by starting a dialogue with traditional leaders, engaging them and presenting gender as a human rights issue. The same approach was taken with raising awareness of gender issues with men, who subsequently became gender champions. Support was also received from youth. As regards the question on gender focal points, many of them are senior government officials as they need to be able to lobby policymakers. Training was provided for them to understand the concept of gender mainstreaming, but also on other issues such as HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) and human rights.

37. Several questions were posed to the representative of Rwanda, focusing on challenges in training country experts, including through South–South cooperation, and on the lack of financial resources. The representative of Rwanda explained that there are many opportunities for training at the national and regional levels, including on national communications, NAPAs and technology needs assessments. To meet the challenges of scarce financial resources, a national climate fund was established with the objective to capitalize both internal and external resources. National capitalization benefited from the forestry fund, project registration fees and charges paid for non-compliance with rules. With regard to external capitalization, resources have been mobilized from climate change financial mechanisms, and bilateral and multilateral agencies.

38. Ms. Diane McFadzien and Mr. Espen Ronneberg of the secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) presented the Finnish–Pacific Project (FINPAC) on Reduced Vulnerability of the Pacific Island Country Villagers' Livelihoods to the Effects of Climate Change. The purpose of this project is to improve the capacity of the Pacific Island countries' national meteorological and hydrological services to deliver weather, climate and early warning services in cooperation with and for the benefit of villagers in Pacific communities, in partnership with several organizations and groups and experts around the region. The project included various components focused on technical and communication issues such as improved maintenance and rehabilitation of selected 'silent' weather observation stations and the training of personnel in the national meteorological and hydrological services to communicate with stakeholders in cooperation with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other NGOs. This project helped with understanding the vulnerabilities and capacities of communities, building the capacities of communities to access, understand and use weather and climate information through community workshops, developing integrated community climate and disaster resilient plans and supporting continued community awareness through educational materials.

39. Ms. Lavina Tama (Cook Islands) made a presentation on her country's experience as one of the beneficiaries of FINPAC. One of the most relevant positive impacts of this project was on communication: the Cook Islands Meteorological Service (CIMS) completed its media guide and plan, including plans and suggestions from national media on how it can work together with the media to raise awareness and understanding of meteorological terms, weather and climate systems. The Cook Islands Meteorological Service is now better equipped with knowledge and tips on social media and media engagement processes, and has a better understanding of how to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate a communications strategy. The next component will focus on

reaching out to local villages to promote the understanding of meteorological terms, weather and climate systems. One such event has already taken place and has been considered valid for replication: for the first time the community participated in a village workshop to discuss climate and disaster resilience and learned to plan and build their resilience to climate and disaster events.

40. Mr. Stefan Schwager, Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance, briefed the Durban Forum on the first forum of the Committee, held on 28 May 2013 in Barcelona, Spain, with the focus on mobilizing finance and investments for climate action. He discussed topics raised at the forum, including existing opportunities and challenges related to climate finance flows, and noted that, although the overall scale of finance had increased significantly in recent years as part of fast-start finance, mobilizing sufficient levels of finance remains a challenge. In relation to adaptation finance, lessons learned from the forum of the Standing Committee on Finance showed that the use of the public sector for attracting private-sector financing has been difficult and linkages between adaptation and development are complex. Furthermore, the forum underlined that risks and uncertainties are different in adaptation and mitigation projects. First of all, estimating the cost of mitigation is easier, and second, it is difficult to assess the effectiveness of an adaptation project since successful impacts are not readily measurable. Mr. Schwager also highlighted the need to continue to enhance the ownership in developing countries at the national level and the need for high-level support and engagement of the ministries of finance, among other issues raised.

41. Mr. Daouda Ndiaye from the secretariat of the Adaptation Fund Board informed the Durban Forum of the Adaptation Fund's readiness programme for climate finance. After four years in operation and the accreditation of 16 national implementing entities, the Board noted that only five of the national implementing entities were able to develop project proposals and submit them for approval to the Board. Therefore, the Board developed a programme to strengthen the capacity of national and regional entities to receive and manage climate finance. The programme was launched at a seminar held in May 2014 in Washington D.C., United States of America. The seminar brought together experts from a variety of organizations (including bilateral and multilateral agencies, other funds, NGOs, foundations and private-sector entities) who shared experiences, outlined areas of collaboration and identified ways forward. During the seminar a new grants programme for South–South cooperation in accreditation was announced to assist neighbouring countries in building the capacity of national implementing entities. Entities accredited by the Adaptation Fund will also be eligible to receive grants and provide support to countries that are seeking accreditation from the Adaptation Fund. Countries without a national implementing entity may apply for a grant to receive support from an existing national implementing entity. Upcoming readiness activities include the development of a knowledge exchange platform to disseminate knowledge and tools to enable access to adaptation finance, the organization of readiness seminars, an African national implementing entity workshop and a regional accreditation workshop. Targeted technical assistance will be provided to selected accredited entities to improve their capacity to comply with the Adaptation Fund's environmental and social policy.

42. A representative of Rwanda asked for clarification on the South–South cooperation grants programme. The representative of the secretariat of the Adaptation Fund Board explained that a potential national implementing entity can seek support from an accredited national implementing entity, which, in turn, may support different countries. The potential entity can submit its application requesting support to the Adaptation Fund.

43. A representative of France highlighted the importance of building capacity on climate finance, including the engagement of private-sector entities. The Co-Chair of the

Standing Committee on Finance invited the delegate and the audience to follow discussions at the upcoming second forum of the Committee, where this topic will be considered.

44. A representative of Finland noted the considerable impact of peer learning in the FINPAC project. He added that the NAP process could also benefit from South–South and triangular cooperation.

45. A representative of the United States asked the representative of the SPREP secretariat whether other villages in the Pacific small island developing States requested the same training as that provided at the village workshop referred to in paragraph 38 above. The representative of the SPREP secretariat mentioned a project in the Solomon Islands with an ecosystem-based set of activities. He also added that other countries would like to benefit from this peer-to-peer cooperation which enables strong cross-fertilization of ideas.

46. On behalf of the Chair of the SBI, Mr. Fry thanked all panellists for the excellent, focused and interesting presentations and all participants for their active involvement in the fruitful discussions. Recalling the words of Ms. Figueres at the opening of the meeting, where she defined capacity-building as a democratization process, Mr. Fry expressed his conviction that the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum did contribute to this process. He closed the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum by inviting all participants to multiply the lessons learned during the meeting.

IV. Next steps

47. This report will be submitted for consideration to SBI 41.

48. Parties and other stakeholders may wish to use the information contained in this report, and in the presentations and statements delivered during the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum,[16] when planning, designing and implementing their capacity-building activities in developing countries.

49. Bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol may wish to use the information contained in this report to inform their deliberations on matters related to capacity-building in performing their functions as decided by the COP and the CMP.

[16] <http://unfccc.int/8397.php>.

Annex

[English only]

Agenda for the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building

Thursday 12 June 11 00 – 13 00 — **3rd Meeting**

11 00 – 11 15	Opening	Welcome address	Capacity-building to enhance climate-resilient pathways to sustainable development
	Mr. Amena Yauvoli Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and of the Durban Forum	Ms. Christiana Figueres Executive Secretary, UNFCCC secretariat	Ms. Koko Warner Lead Author for Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report
11 15 – 11 40	Introduction to the sessions	Recommending actions to create and enhance enabling environments for the development and transfer of climate technology	CTCN and capacity-building
	Mr. Ian Fry (Tuvalu) Ms. Angela Kallhauge (Sweden) Co-facilitators	Technology Executive Committee (TEC) Mr. Kunihiko Shimada TEC Vice-chair	Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) Mr. Fred Machulu Onduri Chair of the CTCN Advisory Board
11 40 – 11 50	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TIME		
11 50 – 12 20	Strengthening institutional capacity for reporting	Examples of GEF Projects to enhance and/or create of an Enabling Environment	Improving the sustainability of microfinance institutions in Ethiopia and Nepal through Climate Finance
	Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) Ms. Hilary Hove CGE	Global Environment Facility (GEF) Mr. Rawleston Moore Senior Climate Change Specialist GEF secretariat	Frankfurt School – United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Collaborating Centre for Climate and Sustainable Energy Finance Ms. Christine Grüning Senior Project Manager/Policy Expert
12 20 – 13 00	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TIME AND PANEL DISCUSSION		

Thursday 12 June 15 00 – 17 00

3rd Meeting

Session I : Building Capacity to mitigate: Assessment of options and implementation of mitigation measures

15 00 – 15 40	**Capacity at the front end of the mitigation pipeline** Climate Action Network International **Mr. Pat Finnegan** **Co-ordinator** **CAN-International Working Group on Capacity Building**	**Building capacity to mitigate: Examples and lessons learned from IRENA** International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) **Ms. Elizabeth Press** **Deputy Director Innovation and Technology Centre**	**International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV*** **Mr. Brian Mantlana** **(South Africa)** **Mr. Sebastian Wienges** **(Germany)** *Measurement, reporting and verification (MRV)	**Mobilizing private-sector engagement in LEDs and NAMAs: lessons learned from the UNDPs Low Emission Capacity Building Programme*** Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment **Ms. Alina Averchenkova** **Co-Head Policy** *Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
15 40 – 15 50	**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TIME**			
15 50 – 16 20	**Promoting CDM capacity-building activities in a time of carbon market crisis: the efforts of the CDM Executive Board** Clean development mechanism Executive Board (CDM EB) **Mr. Hugh Sealy** **CDM EB Board Chair**		**Challenges of and solutions to regional distribution of CDM projects** The Nairobi Framework **Ms. Miriam Hinostroza** **Head, Low Carbon Development Programme** **UNEP Risoe**	**UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre Grenada: Building capacity to develop CDM projects in the Caribbean. The experience of the Dominican Republic** **Mr. Federico Grullón** **(Dominican Republic)**
16 20 – 17 00	**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TIME AND PANEL DISCUSSION**			

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FCCC/SBI/2011/14

Friday 13 June 15 00 – 17 00

3rd Meeting

DURBAN FORUM ON CAPACITY BUILDING

Session III Building capacity to adapt: Assessment of options and implementation of adaption measures

15 00 – 15 30	Present and future training approaches of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to build individual and institutional capacities in least developed countries	Technical support and guidance from the Adaptation Committee, to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation	Integrating gender into climate change adaptation strategies in least developed , The experience of Liberia
	Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)	Adaptation Committee (AC)	
	Mr. Batu Uprety, LEG Chair Mr. Faustin Munyazikwiye (Rwanda)	Ms. Sumaya Zakieldeen AC Member	Ms. Siane Abdul Baki (Liberia) Ministry of Gender and Development
15 30 – 15 45	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TIME		
15 45 – 16 15	Reducing the vulnerability of Pacific communities to climate change The experience of the Cook Islands	SCF Forum: Sharing Knowledge on Adaptation Finance	Enhancing developing countries' capacity in accessing finance through national implementing entities, The Adaptation Fund Climate Finance Readiness Programme
	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)	Adaptation Fund Board (AFB)
	Ms. Diane McFadzien, Mr. Espen Ronneberg (SPREP) Ms. Lavinia Tama (Cook Islands)	Mr. Stefan Schwager SCF Co-chair	Mr. Daouda Ndiaye AFB secretariat
16 15 – 17 00	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TIME AND PANEL DISCUSSION		